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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fox Communities Credit Union Honored as Gold-Certified Fox Cities Employee Friendly Workplace

APPLETON, Wis. (October 18, 2024) – Fox Communities Credit Union has been certified as a gold-level Employee Friendly Workplace by the Fox Cities Chamber. This certification recognizes employers who demonstrate a significant commitment to promoting work/life integration by creating a positive work environment and experience for all employees.

Gold-certified employers offer benefits and policies that promote work/life integration and strive to meet diverse needs of employees.

Fox Communities Credit Union was formed 87 years ago with deep roots in the Fox Cities.

“While our purpose of people helping people remains at the heart of what we do as a credit union, we have taken great strides over the last few years to ensure our focus includes the people who make up our team,” explains Chris Allen, President/CEO of Fox Communities Credit Union. “This recognition validates our vision, of ensuring our team is exceptional, has the tools to succeed and is shown the love, value and respect they deserve. Because of this, our team can help our members get what they want by providing the support and tools they need to reach their goals and progress in life.”

Fox’s Chief People Officer, Kris Hackbarth-Horn expands, “Building on a great foundation, in 2021, we refreshed our purpose, mission, vision and values to create our roadmap that will guide our credit union forward. We place considerable focus on our team members and are committed to impactful people-centric programs that bring our intentional culture to life. It’s been an uplifting journey, and we are so pleased with the positive response from our team members.”

Among Fox’s many people-centric initiatives there has been a recent focus on:

- Team member growth and development
- Caregiver Leave: paid time off to help care for their family

- Volunteer Time Off: paid time outside regular scheduled hours to pay it forward in the community
- Tuition Assistance: up to \$5,250/year for full-time team members
- Bereavement Leave: Nontraditional approach to honoring loved ones who pass away not confined to immediate or biological family members
- Retirement Contributions: including a match percentage and profit sharing
- Flexible Work Arrangements: Life-friendly and flexible with many positions offering remote possibilities

In addition to this gold certification, in 2023 the Fox Cities Chamber recognized Fox Communities as the PULSE Champion of Young Professionals as well as Fox being top ranked by Forbes as the best credit union in Northeastern Wisconsin. Fox was also named 2024 "Best of" Community Choice Awards winner for Best Credit Union in Appleton & Oshkosh along with Best Mortgage Lender in Green Bay & Oshkosh and Best Financial Planner in Green Bay & Oshkosh. In 2023, Forbes ranked Fox the best credit union in northeast Wisconsin.

The mission of the Fox Cities Employee Friendly Workplace Initiative is to encourage the adoption of more employee friendly workplace practices and policies to enhance work/life balance and successfully attract and retain the best employees to the region.

To date the Chamber has certified 20 other companies as being employee friendly. Eric Broten, Director of Economic Development at the Chamber, explained how the certification works: "We rate employers in four major categories: Paid Leave and Flexible Work Schedules, Health and Wellness Support, Financial Support and Perks. Employers are then given a score and if qualified, rank as Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum. We are thrilled to add Fox Communities Credit Union to this prestigious list as our newest Employee Friendly Workplace certified employer!"

Certification is open to all employers with operations located in the Fox Cities (Calumet, Outagamie and northern Winnebago Counties). The comprehensive benefit criteria incorporated into the application is intended to be attainable as well as aspirational for employers of any size across all industry sectors.

To learn more about the Fox Cities Employee Friendly Workplace initiative, visit [Employee Friendly Workplace | Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce](#). View a full list of all certified companies at [Certified Businesses | Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce](#).

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About Fox Communities Credit Union

With over 85 years of experience, Fox Communities Credit Union proudly serves more than 130,000 members across 20 locations. As a member-owned financial institution, Fox prioritizes people over profits, ensuring members receive exceptional service and support. Our commitment to community engagement drives us to make a positive impact in the areas we serve. With a dedicated team of over 460 professionals and assets exceeding \$3 billion, Fox Communities Credit Union is well-equipped to meet the financial needs of our members. We are honored to have been recognized as the #1 Best Credit Union in Appleton and Oshkosh in the 2024 "Best of" Community Choice Awards.

About Fox Cities Employee Friendly Workplace Initiative

The Fox Cities Employee Friendly Workplace is a collaborative initiative between businesses and community organizations, led by the Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce, focused on enhancing work/life integration for all employees by encouraging the adoption of more employee friendly workplace practices and policies. It has the primary purpose of creating a supportive work environment and attracting and retaining top talent in the region. The certification is open to all employers with operations located in the Fox Cities (Calumet, Outagamie and Winnebago Counties). The comprehensive benefit criteria incorporated into the application is intended to be attainable as well as aspirational for employers of any size across all industry sectors. <http://foxcitieschamber.com/employee-friendly-workplace>

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